



**State of Connecticut**  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
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**Testimony of Rep. Minnie Gonzalez**  
**House Bill #6493**  
**Judiciary Committee**  
**Wednesday, March 9, 2011**

Chairman Coleman, Chairman Fox and members of the Judiciary Committee, thank you for the opportunity to speak today. My name is Minnie Gonzalez and I am the State Representative for the 3<sup>rd</sup> District in Hartford. I am here to speak in support of bill #6493 that would permit appeals of small claims matters for any party aggrieved by a judgment in a small claims court.

The reason I am in support of this bill is based on repeated constituent testimony that they feel that their side of cases are not being heard. They believe judges are making final decisions without all of the information needed to make informed decisions. I believe that due process is very important and if that process is threatened then we must make sure we do whatever we can to ensure everyone is getting full and fair treatment.

The ability to appeal a judge's decision will allow for a more thorough review of cases and will give those going through the small claims process another opportunity to ensure they are satisfied with the process.

I urge support for the bill and thank you all again for the opportunity to address the committee.

Minnie Gonzalez  
State Representative  
3<sup>rd</sup> District